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Northwest Missouri
State University,
Maryville, Mo.
Volume 77, Issue 15

Thursday,
May 1, 2003



PHOTO BY ABBY SIMONS/MANAGING EDITOR
Dave Bronfenbrenner, left, and Scott Sehon stay the night at Nathan Christensen's house Sunday. The two runners are on a venture across the states.

Runners' trek comes through the 'Ville

Cross country run started in ocean

By ABBY SIMONS
MANAGING EDITOR

Sixty-seven days ago, two seasoned runners began the journey of their lives with little more than sleeping bags, a digital camera and their feet in the Atlantic ocean.

Midway through their 3,200-mile trek across the

United States, the two spent Sunday night in Maryville to share the story of their journey and hopefully to arrange plans for the next night's stay.

While a run across the United States is no longer among the rarest of feats, Pennsylvania natives Scott Sehon, 24, and Dave Bronfenbrenner, 25, have taken a different approach to their journey. Instead of the comfort of support vehicles, the two are instead relying on the kindness of strangers for each night's stay along their five-month endeavor.

"A run across the country has

been done before, but mostly with a car or a Winnebago traveling with them as a support vehicle," Sehon said. "We wanted a kind of rough-it mentality."

The two found that hospitality in senior secondary education major and student assistant track coach Nathan Christensen, who was elated to take in the inspiring guests.

"It's awesome to see people do something like this," Christensen said. "I've ran a marathon before, and I can imagine some of the pain they're going through but not doing

this day after day."

The two first kicked around the idea of a run across the United States more than four years ago while the two were track and cross country teammates at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Penn.

To Sehon, a former insurance company employee from Philadelphia, and Bronfenbrenner, a former chemical engineer from Allentown, Penn., the run seemed like the right decision thanks to the duo's insatiable love for travel and passion for running. "All our friends told us that

we'd never go through with quitting our jobs to do this, so that served as even more motivation for us to do it," Sehon said. "It's always been, 'You're crazy; you're never going to do it,' but all our friends and family have wanted us to succeed at this."

So, after years of planning their route, paying off loans and mustering the courage to pound the pavement for five straight months, the two began their journey in Sea Bright, N.J., Feb. 23. Covering approximately 20 miles per day, the two

(Please see "Runners" page 5A)

Officials delay talks of merger 'til next session

Name change will have to wait until at least 2004

By PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
UNIVERSITY NEWS EDITOR

After a 45-minute phone call April 25, Northwest President Dean Hubbard and University of Missouri system President Elson Floyd decided to put the merger talks on hold.

One of the reasons both sides put the brakes on the merger was the budget talks for the next fiscal year.

However, Hubbard stressed that the merger will be brought to the Missouri Legislature in January 2004.

"The people we depend on (in Jefferson City) felt they couldn't pull it off," Hubbard said. "It's better not to try it than to try it and fail. (State legislators) are obsessed with the budget right now. Dr. Floyd talked to them Thursday, and he said, 'Let's just wait.'"

With the legislative session scheduled to end May 16, Brad Lager, 4th district representative, said it was "virtually impossible" to get the proposal passed last week.

Even though the legislative session ends May 16, the budget proposal must be completed by May 9. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have turned in their proposals, which include cuts to higher education.

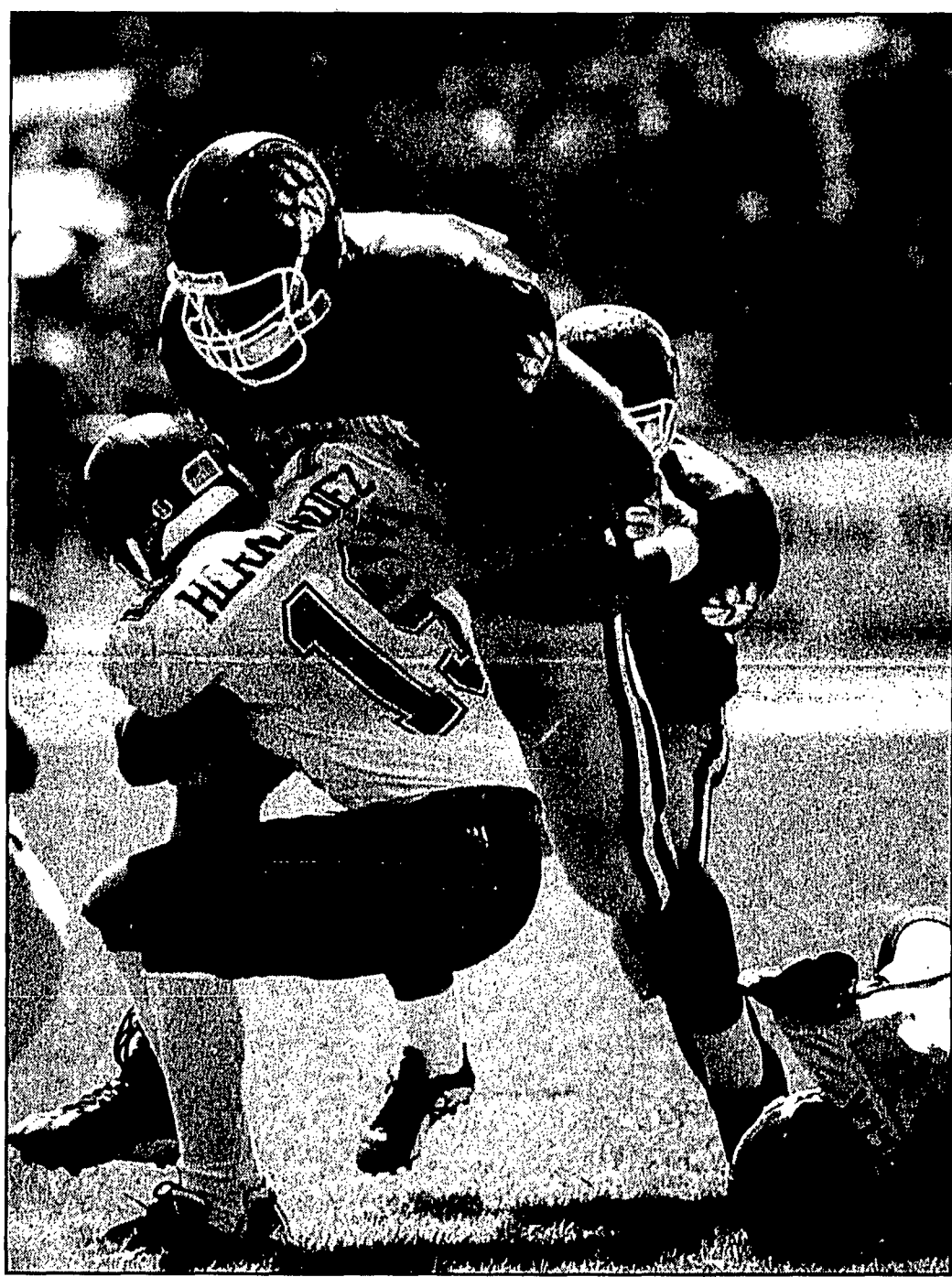
The Senate's proposal includes an \$89 million cut to higher education, and a \$337 million cut to elementary and secondary education. If the \$89 million cut to higher education carries through, \$1.5 million would be cut from Northwest.

The proposed cut from the House of Representatives would be significantly less, as their proposal includes a \$43 million cut to higher education and a \$172 million cut to elementary and secondary.

"(Gov. Bob Holden) said the proposed budget is unacceptable," said Jack Cardetti, spokesman for the governor's office. "It mortgages the budget, and it hurts our future."

Holden introduced his proposed budget, which did not include cuts to education, in January. However, legislators are not satisfied with where

(Please see "Merger" page 5A)



FILE PHOTO
Northwest offensive tackle Seth Wand clears the path for running back Jeromy Scaggs during the season's first game against the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Wand was drafted in the third round by the Houston Texans. As the 75th overall pick in the draft Wand went right where ESPN.com's Len Pasquerelli projected him to.

Northwest's own finds home in NFL

Texans take Wand with 75th pick overall

By CLARK GRELL
SPORTS EDITOR

Northwest graduating senior offensive tackle Seth Wand can tack another reason up for why he will go down as one of the best players in Northwest history.

On Saturday, Wand was drafted by the Houston Texans in the third round of the annual NFL Draft. Wand's selection in the third round made him the highest Bearcat ever selected in the NFL Draft.

"I'm very happy with how things went," Wand said. "I knew going into the draft there were a variety of teams that were interested in me."

The Green Bay Packers and San Diego Chargers were also interested in Wand.

Wand said the experience on draft day was something he will never forget.

"It was overwhelming," Wand said. "In a short time, I found out where I was going to live and where I was going to play. It was nerve-racking. All I could do was sit there, and my cell phone rang, and everything went from there."

The last Bearcat to be drafted was quarterback Chris Greisen, who was selected in the seventh round of the 1999 draft by the Arizona Cardinals. Greisen led the Bearcats to a national championship his senior season in 1998.

Four other offensive tackles were picked ahead of Wand in the draft. Jordan Gross from the University of Utah, George Foster from the Uni-

versity of Georgia and Kwame Harris from Stanford University were taken in the first round. Jonathan Stinchcomb from Georgia and Hunter Wayne from the University of Hawaii were taken before Wand's name was called as the draft's 75th overall pick.

"I knew there were three or four guys that were considered better than me going into the draft," Wand said. "Once they got picked up, I knew there was a good chance I was next, and I had an idea it would be the third round."

Wand said he was happy with where he landed: going to a team in just its second year in existence in the NFL.

"Going to Houston will be a good deal," he said. "I worked with their staff at the Senior Bowl, so I have one-on-one experience with that staff. Their staff also shares very similar qualities with the staff at Northwest. I'm looking forward to it."

There, Wand will be teammates with standout offensive tackle Tony Boselli. Boselli is an all-pro tackle in the league and has played eight seasons in the NFL. He is considered a future Hall of Famer.



SETH WAND
OFFENSIVE TACKLE

(Please see "Wand" page 5A)

Rockin' for a good cause

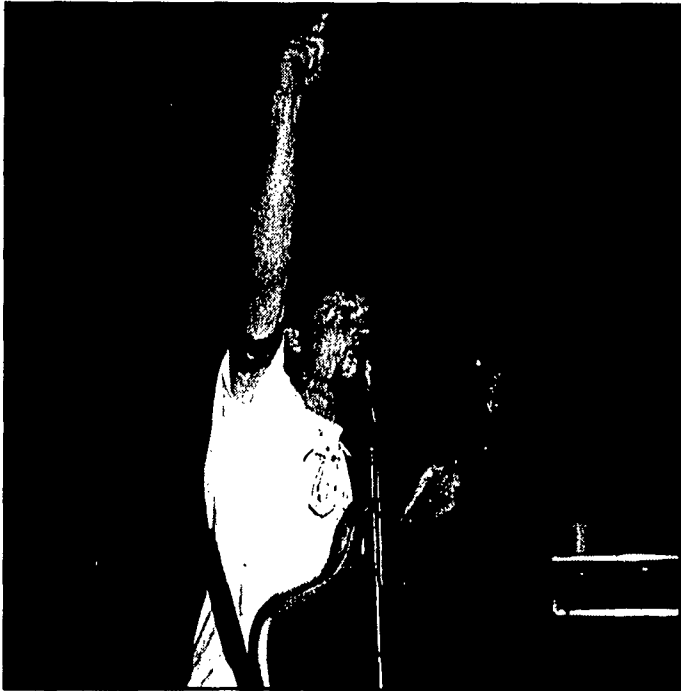


PHOTO BY JANELLE DAVID/MISSOURIAN PHOTOGRAPHER
Tabla Rasa rocks out during last Thursday's Amnesty International benefit concert. The proceeds went to a majority of things including women's rights.

Friends, family remember fallen Northwest student

Anderson bell ringing to take place next fall

By ABBY SIMONS
MANAGING EDITOR

As the saying goes, if it rains when someone dies, the strength of the downpour represents how much enjoyment that person experienced in life.

The day Northwest junior James Anderson was laid to rest near his Ludlow home earlier this month, a hailstorm covered much of northwest Missouri.

Tuesday's early-morning rains of nearly the same caliber resulted in the postponement of the scheduled memorial bell

ringing for Anderson, 22, who was killed April 2 in a one-car accident at the intersection of highways 71 and 136 in Maryville.

Despite the delayed bell ringing, which will now take place next fall at the Bell of '48, Anderson's family finds comfort in the rains which, along with love and fond memories, keep alive the spirit of a man who lived life to the fullest.

"James was kind, compassionate, fun and easygoing," Anderson's sister, Crystal, 24, said. "He loved his family, he loved his friends, and most of all, he loved his life. He was the most wonderful brother in the world."

Survived by his father and

(Please see "Anderson" page 5A)



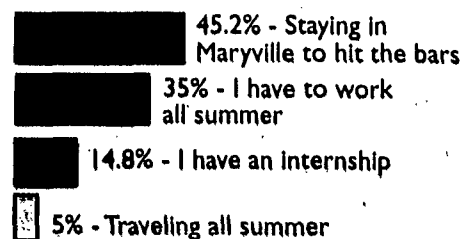
PHOTO COURTESY OF CRYSTAL ANDERSON
James Anderson embraces his older sister Crystal. Anderson's family remembers him as a young man who was full of life. The Northwest student died in a one-car accident on April 2. His bell ringing at the Bell of '48 was postponed until next fall.

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Poll question:

What are your plans for the summer?



Students, faculty dissect aftermath of Iraqi war

By PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
UNIVERSITY NEWS EDITOR

With a band playing and the couches being rearranged at the Union livingroom, a host of faculty, students and professionals voiced their opinions about the war in Iraq April 25.

"Caught between, Iraq and a hard place," presented by Amnesty International, gave students and community members an opportunity to hear about different aspects of the war.

With the conflict in Iraq dying down, some people think the war is over.

"The war probably is over, but the recovery may take a very long time, and it will be very expensive," said Richard Fulton, associate professor of political science and guest panelist.

However, senior co-panelist Jed Murr disagreed with the argument that the war is over.

"Tens of thousands of Iraqi civil-

ians have been demonstrating in the streets, and there was a giant jihad pilgrimage (Apr. 24) in which they were calling for jihad against the U.S., so I'm not sure we can say the war is actually over," he said.

The event began with music playing in the corner of the living room of the Student Union, and it ended with a candlelight vigil. The vigil was an opportunity for students and community to speak out about the developments in Iraq.

During the question and answer session of the event, many audience members were concerned with the U.S. budget.

"The bottom line here is that Congress is going to have to spend more money, (President George W. Bush) is asking for a cutting in taxes, and he already acknowledges that there is going to be a budget deficit before the war costs \$250 to \$400 billion," Fulton said.

Dan Radke, St. Joseph attorney, was also on the panel. He looked at a

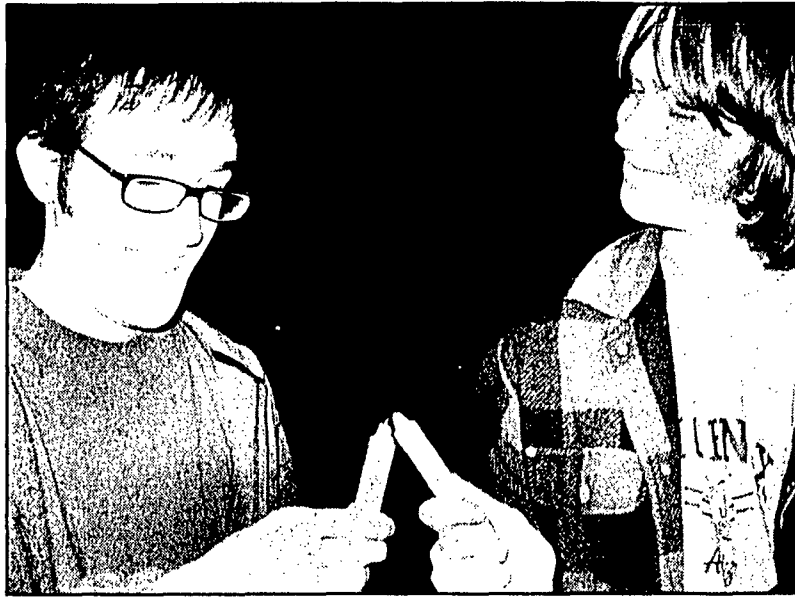


PHOTO BY KERRY JONES/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Joel Potter (right) lights Travis Stohl's candle during the candlelighting April 25. The candlelighting ceremony was part of the presentation "Caught between Iraq and a hard place."

different aspect of the conflict.

"We really didn't go to war technically," Radke said. "Only Congress can declare war... The last time we went to war and were formerly cleared by Congress was Dec. 8, 1941."

Aside from all of the talk about the budget issue and the rebuilding of Iraq, participants also talked about the power of the military.

"The shocking thing about the war was the huge ability to bring destruction (from the military)," Fulton said. "The 'shock and awe' hit me more

than it did the Iraqis, I think."

After the discussion ended, refreshments were served by CARE before the candlelight service outside of the Union.

Overall, Radke said the developments of war have reached new heights.

"The scary thing about this war was it made war so easy and so close as far as human life to Americans are concerned," Radke said. "Don't you think the next war is going to be like reality television?"

Two ceremonies highlight graduation

By MARK EUSTON
CHIEF REPORTER

More than 500 seniors will walk across the Bearcat Arena stage Saturday at graduation.

As was the case last year, there will be two separate graduation ceremonies, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

"This is pretty much like last year's where we are having the two ceremonies because it just got to the point where we had so many graduates wanting to attend that we really needed to split it up," commencement coordinator Gina Bradley said. "We were getting to the point that we could limit them to bringing a couple people to the ceremony."

Bradley said that having two ceremonies corrected that problem, and now, graduates are allowed to bring as many friends and family as they wish.

In preparation for the graduation

ceremony, Bradley has been working on anything and everything from getting the music and video ready to directing faculty and students involved as to what to do.

"(I have been doing) everything to prepare the ceremony," Bradley said. "That is my job as coordinator; I make sure that every detail is tended to and make sure that everyone knows what they are doing."

Bradley said that she expects the ceremony to last from an hour and 45 minutes to two hours.

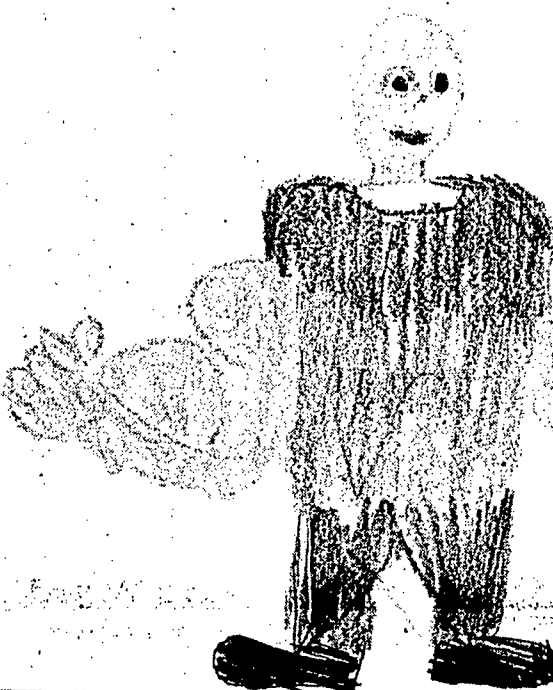
The ceremonies will start at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. with the entrance of the graduates and faculty and will conclude with handing out diplomas.

Speakers at the event will include President Hubbard as well as keynote speaker Melvin D. Booth, who, along with his wife Valerie, is the namesake of the Booth College of Business and Professional Studies.

Mark Euston can be contacted at meuston@missourianonline.com or 562-1224.

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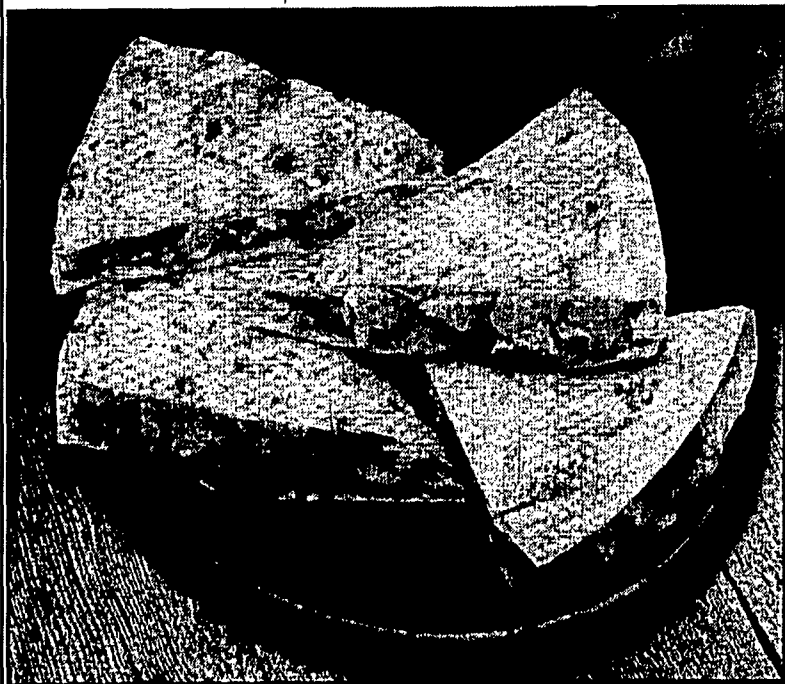
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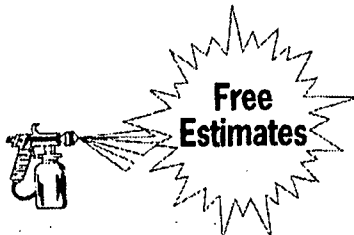
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Drink specials debate attracts local attention

By SARAH SWEDBERG
CHIEF REPORTER

The debate continued last Thursday over whether Maryville should create an ordinance banning all-you-can-drink specials.

At a special City Council meeting, City Council members, Maryville citizens, University administrators and staff, bar owners and representatives from Maryville Public Safety gathered to discuss the pros and cons of creating a city ordinance.

The Northwest administration believes some type of agreement

with bar owners and the Maryville community needs to be made to crack down on binge drinking.

"Drink specials do encourage people to drink more," said Carol Cowles, assistant vice president of student affairs. "We aren't seeing the positive contributions."

President Dean Hubbard said binge drinking is not only a national problem, but it is also a community problem. Both Cowles and Hubbard said the University commits themselves to informing students about University alcohol and drug abuse policies from the time students step on campus for Advan-

tage Week until graduation. Now, Hubbard is seeking community involvement to lessen the problem.

According to a national survey done by the CORE Institute, 91.3 percent of Northwest students consumed alcohol this year and 57.7 percent of Northwest students said they had participated in binge drinking, or drinking five or more drinks in a sitting. In the last two weeks.

The University participated in the study to show that alcohol abuse is an issue not only at universities the size of Northwest but here in Maryville where students

have the capabilities of making unwise decisions under the influence of alcohol.

"All-you-can-drink specials contribute to the problem," said Kent Porterfield, vice president of student affairs.

Porterfield said the issue is serious enough on the Northwest campus that the president's Cabinet developed a resolution which was passed by the Board of Regents.

However, Maryville bar owners believe an ordinance to solve the problem is unnecessary and that it would cause more problems than it would solve.

"I really don't see the need for an ordinance telling me how to do my business," said Paul Thompson, owner of the Palms. "We're responsible for how we run our business, and (students are) responsible for their actions."

Bar owners also believe that a bar setting is a controlled setting for alcohol consumption.

"If it's going to be abused at a bar, it is at a controlled setting," said Mick Hoskey, owner of Molly's.

Hubbard said a bar can be controlled, but it can also be uncontrolled.

"When you tell a person he can drink all he wants, you've given up control; that's an uncontrolled environment," Hubbard said.

One question facing the City Council as well as the Maryville community is whether more binge

drinking occurs at house parties or local bars.

With the lack of statistics, the city is unsure of the answer to that question.

Throughout the majority of the meeting, bar owners stated their concerns against a city ordinance and the University discussed reasons for an agreement or city ordinance. Even though nothing was solved Thursday night, the city council was able to hear individuals' thoughts and opinions.

However, Thursday night's meeting lacked student representation concerning the issue.

The City Council has decided to hold off on the action of drafting an ordinance or another agreement until the fall because stronger evidence is needed.

Sarah Swedberg can be contacted at sswedberg@missourianonline.com or 562-1224.

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Becky Adams
Kaycee Sandridge
Amy Kephart
Crystal McArdle

Congratulations to all Greek organizations on their accomplishments throughout the year.

Good luck seniors, you will be missed!

From,
The Women of Alpha Sigma Alpha

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Our View

It's definitely wise to wait

Administration's decision to wait for merger until next legislative session brings relief

On April 24, hopes of an early merger for officials at Northwest and the University of Missouri system came to a halt. It is safe to say that when students return for the fall term, Northwest will still be holding its own ground.

Now, instead of Northwest Missouri State University becoming the University of Missouri-Northwest when students return next fall, the merger will not take place until at least January of 2004.

President Dean Hubbard and Northwest officials made a strong decision in waiting until the next legislative session to get the merger passed. This gives the legislature more time to consider the merger and decide whether or not this is good for the UM system.

Hubbard knew it was not going to be easy to get this proposal through the legislature within a month's time. Luckily, reality struck.

After all, the decision to merge with the University of Missouri came out of nowhere very quickly and showed signs of collapsing if run through too fast.

We know, as students and faculty, the merger is likely to go through eventually. The day will come when this campus is linked to the UM system. The Missouri Legislature has already given praise to the merger proposal. Yet, allowing time for the proposition to pass allows the University to be better prepared. It also allows time for more questions to be answered. Most importantly, things will not be rushed, and options can be looked at carefully instead of quickly.

Officials at both schools can evaluate what possible tuition costs would occur as well as the changes to admissions and human resources that would take place. If the merger were to take place July 1, then those issues would have been rushed.

The stall in the merger allows University officials to address other problems such as the budget crisis and computer networking.

Students, faculty members, parents and alumni still have little to no idea what is happening now with the merger, nor were they going to find out about it between now until July 1, the date Hubbard was eyeing to merge with the UM system.

Officials, including Hubbard, made the right move. Let's give this proposal time to breathe before anything is done. Come next year at this time, Hubbard might be glad he and UM system President Elson Floyd gave the proposal the much-needed time it deserves.

Letter to the Editor

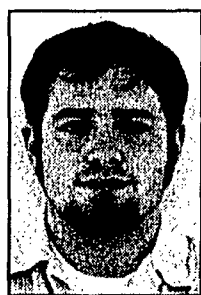
Student apologizes for false Hudson Hall fire alarms

I would like to take this opportunity to apologize to the Northwest students of Hudson Hall and Campus Safety for my actions in pulling the fire alarm during first semester. As it seemed to be a practical joke at the time, I see now the seriousness of my action. I learned that it is nothing to be taken lightly and is something that can cause harm to many people. I apologize once again for my bad decision during first semester.

TJ. TOBIN



The Fire this Time



JED MURR
MISSOURIAN COLUMNIST

Columnist says goodbye, yet concerns remain

Over the last year and a half, thanks to my editors, I've had complete freedom to focus on the enormous problems I see facing our nation, democracy and humanity. During that time, I've been repeatedly reminded of something James Baldwin—one of the greatest thinkers this nation has ever produced, who inspired the title of my column—once wrote: "American history is longer, larger, more various, more beautiful, and more terrible than anything anyone has ever said about it."

For us, as citizens of this beautiful, terrible nation, it is more important than ever that we look honestly at that history, that we be willing to see both the best and worst in it (and in us) so that we might help shape our future.

Right now, in many ways, that future looks grim.

It's quite clear now that our planet is dying. Over the last 200 years, our destruction of the earth has accelerated almost beyond comprehension, so much so that the fate of humanity is in our hands more dramatically than in any other time in history.

And, as we make our planet less

and less livable, disparity in the United States and throughout the world is greatly increasing: as the leaders of the rich Western nations—including both major parties in the United States—trumpet the new age of globalization, they are working diligently with leaders of massive, largely unaccountable private corporations to ensure that the constructed right of corporations to profit supercedes national sovereignty, fundamental worker protections, basic human rights and protection of the environment. The "free trade" agreements they have passed (and the ones still in the works) have very little to do with free, fair trade and very much to do with maximizing profits for a very few while condemning billions to abject poverty.

For the United States, this has meant that real wages, job security, living standards and social mobility have dramatically decreased over the last 25 years, and our healthcare, education and Social Security systems are in shambles as private profit is privileged over people.

Meanwhile, our nation is controlled by a hard-right, reactionary administration who has used Sept. 11 and our fears to justify their profitable war games abroad. And that fear and those distractions (along with the most servile media in the Western world) have allowed them to ignore major world problems while waging open, unquestioned war on our fundamental civil liberties, the Constitution, international law, basic human rights, education, working people, African-Americans, the poor and our environment.

And still, political participation is absolutely wretched: since World War II, the U.S. ranks 114th in the world in voter turnout. Political awareness is even more wretched since most Americans are content with the bits of gushing, sensationalized nonsense spit forth by a very few entertainment media corporations.

In spite of all this, there are also monumental reasons for hope:

Never before in human history have so many people joined together, across national borders and cultural divides, to work together for common

causes. The social justice movements that have arisen worldwide in response to the gross inequalities and injustices of globalization have been truly awe-inspiring, with steel workers from Kansas marching arm-in-arm with bean pickers from Guatemala and factory workers from China, all committed to shaping globalization in ways that will genuinely benefit all people, rather than simply helping a very few elites to profit.

And, over the last year, thanks in part to the Internet (which, for all its dangerous faults, can be an incredible information resource and organizing force since, unlike our other means of communication, it's not entirely controlled by private power), those global justice movements helped create the largest moments of collective democratic action in human history, with tens of millions of people all over the globe marching in the name of peace and democracy against a nightmarish, destructive war.

We don't, of course, have to care about any of this. As Noam Chomsky has often said, "If we choose, we can live in a world of comforting illusion." But if we don't want that, then the struggle is to work against the forces that seek only to divide, subject and control us. And maybe, ultimately, that struggle will fail—the world may end because humans will have failed to make both peace and life sustainable.

But, regardless of what happens in the decades and centuries to come, our task right now is to work every day, in our own small ways, to act with reason, compassion, peace and honesty toward each other. So, I'll end this column, and my time at Northwest, with a thought along those lines from another of our greatest thinkers, historian Howard Zinn:

"To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness...And if we do act, in however small a way, we don't have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory."

Your View

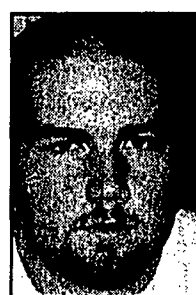
What's your method of relieving stress during finals week at Northwest?



"Drinking alcohol."
Daniel Harr
UNDECIDED



"Playing videogames."
Mike Beeman
JOURNALISM



"I drink to relieve stress."
Mike DeGraaf
MARKETING



"I work out."
Megan O'Brien
CHILD AND FAMILY STUDIES



"I sleep."
Jessica Hoffercker
CHILD AND FAMILY STUDIES

Have something to say?

Dial

562-1980

"Yeah, I have to vent about something. It's about the women here on the Northwest Missouri campus. No. I one, short shorts are a privilege, not a right. I don't want to hear about how they need to diet when there are damn toothpicks in line trying to get their damn slurpees and smoothies from Sweets 'n Treats. I don't want to hear it. And cellulite? I don't need to see it."



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ANDERSON from 1A

Student remembered as full of life

stepmother, Jim and Donna Anderson of Ludlow, his mother, Robyn Verjan of Memphis, Tenn., two brothers and four sisters, Anderson also left behind numerous additional family members and friends, located on the Northwest campus and at home.

Anderson arrived at Northwest in the fall of 2002 after transferring from North Central Community College in Trenton, where he received his associate's degree. A resident of Phillips Hall before relocating off campus for the spring trimester, Anderson majored in accounting so as to utilize his natural talents in the areas of math and computers. While he planned to pursue a career soon after graduation, Anderson's father, Jim, said he never forgot his first love of farming.

"James's first love was the land. He loved to farm and he always wanted to farm," Jim said. "The main goal we had was getting him through school, but we had dreams, ideas and long-term goals."

While he possessed a strong work ethic, Jim described his son, a card-playing and pool enthusiast, as well as an accomplished fisherman whose trophies often weighed as much as he did, as someone whose presence could enliven any setting, while his sister described his charm and stunning blue eyes as his most distinguishable traits that could make a close friend of any acquaintance.

"He was quite the clown and could fit in at any situation," Jim said. "He was a big socializer. He was a nut, and, of course, he never knew a stranger."

Not only establishing a vast amount of friends through his personality, Anderson forged the tightest of bonds with his close-knit family, including his young brothers, for whom he served as a role model, and even his older sisters, for whom he served as a "bodyguard."

Today, the Andersons find solace through the comfort of friends on whom James made such a strong impact, despite the brevity of his life.

"Most of the family's healing quite well, but this leaves a different kind of void in your heart and your mind," Jim said. "James's friends come over, and we talk and we cry, and mostly we just keep talking about him. Those people stay friends with us, and that's how you know who his true friends are."

Despite the void in Anderson's family left by his early passing, Anderson's family, friends and even those who merely made his acquaintance during his brief life will continue to forever remember a young man whose impact was stronger than that of any northwest Missouri hailstorm.

"He was more than a brother," Crystal said. "He was more like your best friend, everyone's best friend. He's someone I can't imagine I'm going to live every day without."

RUNNERS from 1A

Runners take on United States

spend each night with prearranged hosts who offer a night's stay either upon meeting them or by contacting them through their Web site, www.runtheusa.com. If a place to stay is not found, the two camp out under the stars.

Sehon said, of all the states the two have covered since beginning the trip, Missouri has been by far the most interesting, containing both the most friendly and unfriendly of residents.

"Missouri's very interesting," Sehon said. "It seems like three out of every four cars, people wave, but at the same time, we've been stopped three times by the police here just because we looked suspicious."

The duo plans to end their cross-country run with their feet in the Pacific Ocean around Aug. 9.

From there, Sehon plans to return to Philadelphia to work and train for the 2008 Olympic trials while Bronfenbrenner will attend graduate school at the University of California-Berkeley in the fall.

While the two both acknowledge that their trip is already the experience of a lifetime, they offer words of encouragement, yet cau-

tion to aspiring "cross-country" runners.

"When we'll talk about this in the future, we'll only think of the good things because there's a lot of stuff we're going through right now that's not fun," Sehon said. "But it's going to be something we will talk about for the rest of our lives."

Bronfenbrenner expressed caution on a different factor to Northwest students who may one day consider the jaunt.

"Wait until you're out of college," he said. "You'll still need more time than you have all summer."

To track Sehon and Bronfenbrenner's route across the United States as well as to see if their nightly lodging has been secured, log on to their Web site, www.runtheusa.com. Contact information is also available for those who would like to host the runners for a night.

The site also includes the duo's mission, biographies and links to additional coverage of the Sehon and Bronfenbrenner's run across the United States.

Abby Simons can be contacted at 562-1224 or asimons@missourianonline.com

MERGER from 1A

Legislators hold off on merger talks

education is being funded.

"The governor wants to cut his way to prosperity," said Brad Lager, 4th district representative. "What has to happen is we have to review the programs and rate programs and then eliminate certain programs."

Despite the differences between the House of Representatives and Senate, Lager is confident a deal will be made.

"I think the House and the Senate are aware of the differences," Lager said. "We'll continue to make the deadline, and everyone has that dedication."

While budget talks continue in Jefferson City, developments with the merger are projected to continue into the next legislative session.

"We'll come to the agreement next year," Hubbard said. "Then, when the legislation passes the proposal, (the merger) is a done deal."

One issue that has been laid to rest is the name change. If Northwest becomes part of the UM system, the name would be changed to the University of Missouri-Northwest.

"I don't expect any more discussion about (the name change)," Hubbard said. "It's been decided."

WAND from 1A

Wand makes cut to NFL

Wand said he finds it a bit overwhelming to be playing with Boselli and other NFL greats, but he added it is something about which he cannot get too excited.

"It will be fun, but you've got to look past that," Wand said. "Tony Boselli is going to be a Hall of Fame guy, and I will learn a lot from him. I want to learn what I can from him and hopefully make my career better."

Wand is a two-time All-American at Northwest. He earned a spot on the All-MIAA team three consecutive seasons. Wand was a part of the 1999 national championship team. He participated in this year's Senior Bowl, a game consisting of the best college seniors in the country.

Wand said his approach to the game of football will not change despite heading to the next level.

"I'm just going to continue what I've been doing and make sure I make the team," Wand said. "Basically, I want to do what I've been doing these last five years."

Wand will leave for Houston next week to take part in the team's minicamp drills.

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Latin dancers find niche through new club

By GINNY FRANCIS
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Officially recognized at the beginning of the semester, the Folkloric Dancers of Latin America have proven to be a distinguished cultural organization.

Inspired by Ali Rojas, an international student from Mexico, and Reina Drake, a Spanish teacher also from Mexico, the organization promotes cultural learning through Latin dance performances.

"I love my traditional music because I learned it when I was a young girl," said

Rojas. "I wanted to find a way to express my roots."

Malinda Bartholow, president of the newly formed group, appreciates Rojas's contribution.

"You can get a deep look into the Spanish culture, and through the dancing, we can show the pride they take in their traditions," Bartholow said.

It began as a small, informal group that met in the fall to learn dances from Mexico, Spain, Brazil and Cuba and at the same time, speak Spanish with one another since most of them had an academic concentration in Spanish.

After a performance at an Alpha Mu Gamma meeting, a foreign lan-

guage honor organization, the group received several promising comments that pushed them in their pursuits to become a recognized organization at Northwest.

Currently, about 10 members are involved, and dues are not required. However, female members are initially required to buy their own fabric for a seamstress to make a traditional Latin skirt.

Bartholow hopes for more male members to show an interest in the group.

"We'd like to see more guys join because a lot of the dances traditionally require us to be in pairs," she said.

A few of the dances the group has learned so far have been the Salsa, Mirange, Samba and La Blanco dances.

The organization meets weekly in South Complex to practice for their upcoming events.

The group's future goals are to increase its membership and eventually perform at the annual Cultural Festival held at the Plaza in Kansas City.

Rojas's exchange program is coming to an end, and she will return back to her native home in Mexico.

"I'm really honored and proud that I'm leaving my influence here for people to experience," Rojas said. "I hope people enjoy it."

Fraternity praises director for his musical passion

By ELGIN SMITH
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

After 37 years as a band director, one professor was recognized for his service.

Al Sergel, wind symphony director, was presented with Kappa Kappa Psi's Distinguished Service to Music Medal.

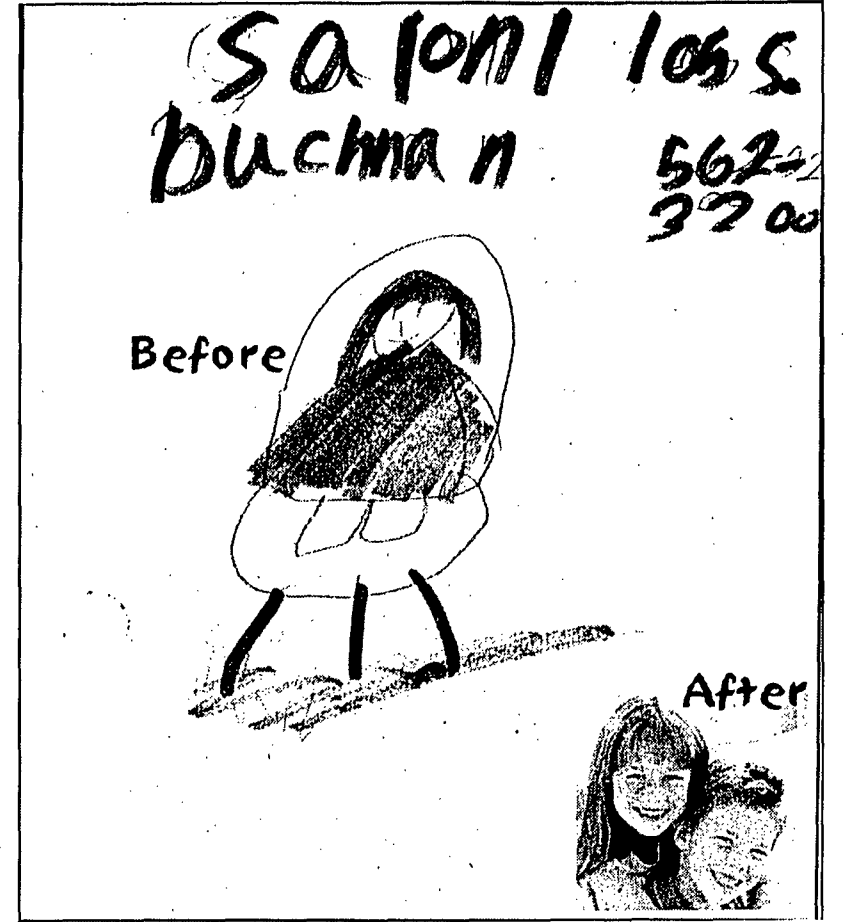
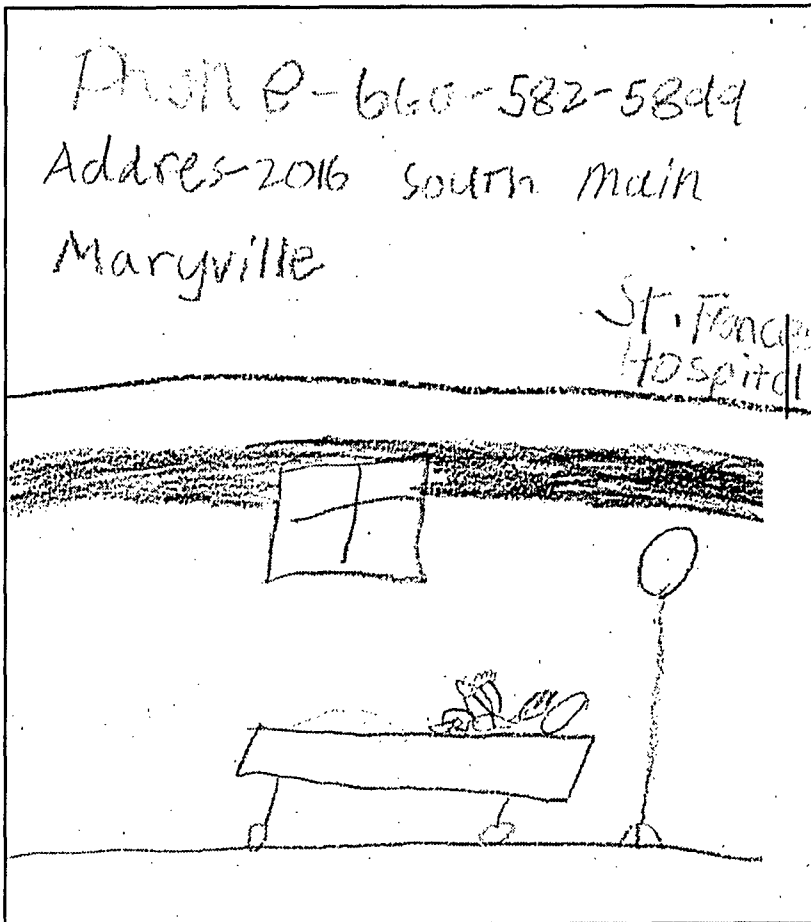
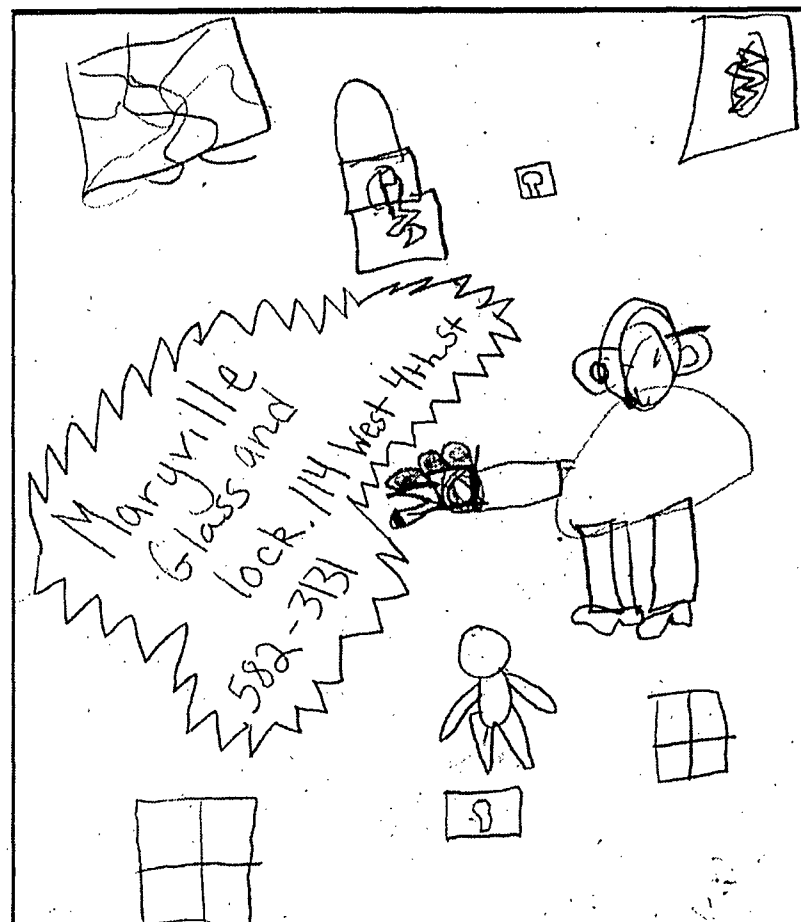
This award was presented by the Northwest chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, a national honorary fraternity for college bandmembers, due to Sergel's outstanding achievements as a music educator.

The character of Al Sergel can be summed up by his favorite quote, which he keeps on his desk: "When your work speaks for itself, don't interrupt."

"I've never been one who tries to win awards," he says, "and this is a very surreal, humbling experience."

Carrie Shuck, president of the Northwest chapter, said the award is well deserved.

"(He won this award) because his teaching methods, both in and out of the classroom, make his students better educators and better people."



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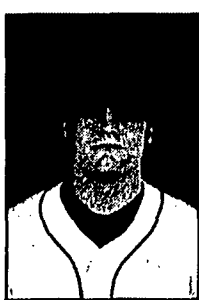
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PLAYERS OF THE WEEK



John Sipes

The senior went 2 for 3 with five RBIs in a 7-6 win at Washburn in game two. In the game, Sipes belted his 16th homerun of the season.

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Bearcats to face Mules in season finale

By COLE YOUNG
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwest baseball team has hit their stride at just the right time. After shaky defense plagued them in two losses, the defense has been the stronghold in the 'Cats five-game winning streak. The proof of their success is in the numbers.

In the losses to Rockhurst University and the University of Missouri-Rolla, Northwest committed seven errors. Since, they have only had two fielding blunders.

One area that has shown extreme improvement is the left side of the infield. Of the 69 errors on the team, 43 were committed by the shortstop and third baseman. Seniors Willie Ciaramataro and John Sipes have struggled in the field up until the current winning streak.

While the two have had slumps fielding, their hitting has remained solid. Ciaramataro leads the squad at the plate with a .360 batting average



Northwest (32-11, 18-5 in MIAA)
AT
CMSU (39-6, 25-1 in MIAA)

CMSU has clinched the top spot in the MIAA as Northwest clinched second place with their three-game sweep of Southwest Baptist. Central is ranked first in the region and Northwest is second.

and also leads in doubles, runs and hits.

Sipes is batting .348 and is making a run at the school record for home runs with 15. Sipes needs only three more long balls to tie the record of 18.

In this weekend's three-game sweep of Southwest Baptist University, Northwest also honored their seniors. On senior day, one senior made

it a record-breaking day.

Senior John Bothof surpassed Adam Bailey for all-time hits with 228. Bothof had four hits on Saturday.

Northwest won the series 7-1, 8-1, 7-3.

The next opponent for Northwest won't come as such easy competition. Central Missouri State University brings in one of the nation's most potent offenses as well as a top 10 pitching staff.

The Mules come into the three-game set as the No. 5 team in the nation while Northwest holds the No. 25 spot.

Central has already clinched the regular season MIAA title, but the series does have some meaning. Any wins the 'Cats can pull off can help them in the regional rankings, which have them at No. 4. The Mules are the No. 1 team in the south central region.

The Bearcats are 32-11 overall and second place in the conference with an 18-5 record.

6TH IN THE NATION



PHOTO COMPLIMENTS OF NIKKI YOUNT
The Northwest Missouri State University Bearcat Steppers received 6th place honors in the NCA/NDAA Chick-Fil-A Collegiate Nationals, held April 2-6, in Daytona, Fla. The Bearcat Steppers went against 21 other universities in Division II, including New York University, Oklahoma, Central University, Washburn University and Hawaii Pacific. The squad has finished 20th, 13th and 6th in the past three years.

Northwest heads to Gladstone as MIAA's fourth seed

By CLARK GRELL
SPORTS EDITOR

After picking up a split with Pittsburg State University Monday, the Northwest softball team is turning its focus to a new season — the MIAA conference tournament this weekend in Gladstone.

The Bearcats (28-19, 10-8 in the MIAA) will enter Friday's tournament as the No. 4 seed where they will play Emporia State University.

"All year, we've been building up to this one moment," freshman first baseman Ashley Pride said. "We start over from here. Everything we've done in the past doesn't matter when you get to the conference tournament."

The Bearcats will need to get past a team that swept them earlier in the season. The Hornets dealt the Bearcats 14-1 and 2-1 defeats in Emporia, Kan., on April 15.

But the team has defeated every team in the MIAA at least once except Emporia State. They split doubleheaders with No. 1 seed Truman State University, No. 2 seed Washburn University and No. 3 seed Central Missouri State University this

season.

"Everything they've worked for since August — this is what it's all about this weekend," head coach Susan Punzo said. "Hopefully, they'll be mentally tough and ready to play."

On Monday, the Bearcats lost game one to Pitt State 8-3 but rebounded by winning the nightcap 3-2.

Game two did not start the way the team had hoped. Pitt State jumped out to an early 2-0 lead, but Northwest battled back to tie the game at two after a run by Heather Conary in the 3rd inning and an RBI single by Pride in the 5th inning.

Pride knocked in the winning run in the 7th inning. Pitt State's Libby Overman was unable to handle the routine grounder, allowing junior left fielder Angie McCoy to score.

"My bat has been dead for the last couple of weeks, so I was just praying for a base hit," Pride said. "That's all I was going for."

Punzo said a win like this was needed heading into the MIAA tournament.

"Hopefully, this is a big confidence booster," she said. "We need to be more confident. I feel we're seeing the ball better at the plate. It was good to

see we looked more comfortable. That was good, and hopefully, it carries over."

Sophomore pitcher Jacqui Handlos recorded the win, pitching a complete game. Handlos also played a key role in the top of the seventh inning, stranding two Gorilla base runners on the corners.

Pitt State won the first game 8-3.

Shelly MacDonald suffered the loss for the Bearcats. The Gorillas were able to score five runs in the third inning and three more in the seventh, despite falling behind 2-0 after the first inning. With the loss, the Gorillas fell short of qualifying for the MIAA tournament.

Clark Grell can be contacted at 562-1224 or cgrell@missourianonline.com

Joy,
You've run the race and crossed the finish line! Good job Bud. I'm so proud of you! May you Always achieve all of your dreams, and may God Bless your future. always believe it yourself and have faith in God, and you'll make it.

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Love
Mom, Dad, Sean, J.T.,
G'pa, G'ma's, Aunts
Uncles, Cousins



Congratulations Brother!
Love: Jenna, Jen, & John

"Following
the light of
the sun,
we left the
Old world"
-Christopher
Columbus-



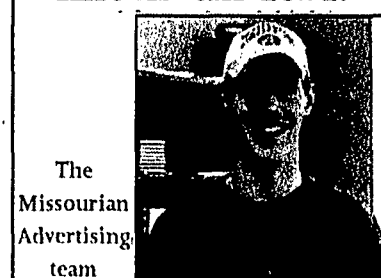
Clara- Follow your dreams, wherever they go.
--Love Mom, Dad, Matthew and Inky

Get Excited Lisa, you're
graduating!
Thanks for putting the heart
in heartland and always
making it fun.
Good luck we'll miss you.
Someday we'll all meet up
again for hot chocolate and
lupper.
Love, your heartland view
staff



**Jackie
&
Matt,**

Good luck we know
you'll do great in
whatever you do!
Knock 'em dead!

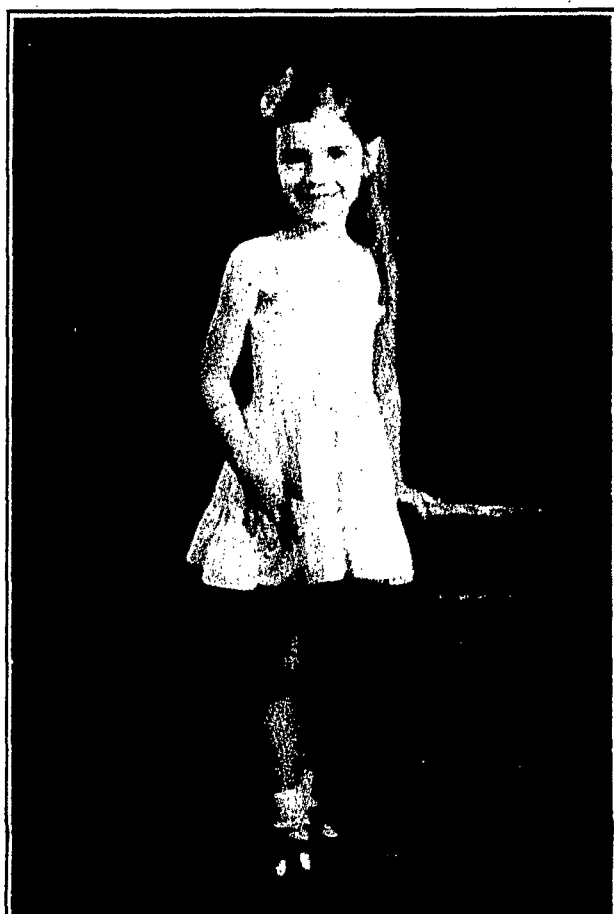


The
Missourian
Advertising
team



Lindsay,
Even though
we never
figured out
what
you did here...
You'll still be
sorely missed!

**T
O
W
E
R**



**C
o
n
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t
i
o
n
s

Keri**

I'm so proud of you!
Mom



We
always
knew
you
would
do
GREAT
things!

Love,
Mom
&
Dad



Josh,
We know you will
be Super at
whatever you do.
We're so proud of
you.
Love you,
Mom, Dad, and
Sarah

Sarah Michelle
Ziemer,
You'll always
be our
PRINCESS!
We are so proud of
you!
Love,
Dad, Mom, Billy



We are so
proud of you.
We always
knew you had
it in you.
Best Wishes
for a
Wonderful
Life.

-Mom, Dad, & Dave-

Congratulations Kristen Tennille Robinson!

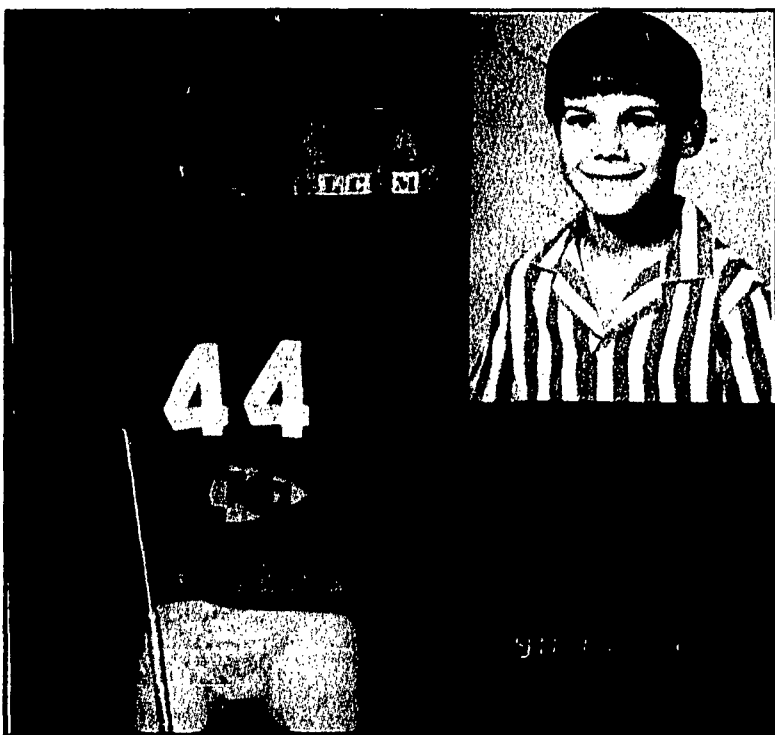
To some, you will always be "Krippie".

To others, you're Teeter.

But to us, you will always be our little "Beaner"

We are so proud of you!

Love, your mom Terry Henderson Your dad, Nathaniel Robinson, Sr.
and your brother, Nate "Bunny" Robinson Jr.



Hard work makes dreams a
reality. We are very proud
of you Ryan. Great Job!



With love and Pride
we honor you today
and always.
Love Dad & Mom

Congratulations Paul,

We can't believe you
actually made it after all
the obstacles in your way.
The great floods of 2000 &
2003 would be enough to
break any normal man.



But more impressive
was you lasted thru
Larry and his "
smoking" problem.

-The Greenhouse-